

ILLINOIS FARM REPORT



ILLINOIS
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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HIGHLIGHTS
GRAIN STOCKS
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WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS

The staff of IASS wishes to thank the farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses that responded to the December Crops and Hogs Surveys, the December Mill & Elevator Survey and the December Prices Received Survey. Your responses to these surveys are important to the agricultural community.

DECEMBER 1 GRAIN STOCKS

Corn stocks in Illinois on December 1, 2004 totaled 1.66 billion bushels, 14 percent more than a year earlier. On-farm stocks, at 970 million bushels, accounted for 59 percent of the total stocks. Off-farm stocks, at 687.3 million bushels, were 14 percent more than in 2003. **Soybean stocks** totaled 417.6 million bushels stored in all positions on December 1, 2004, up 36 percent from the previous year's total. Of the total stocks, 235 million bushels were stored on farms, 47 percent above a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 182.6 million bushels, were up 23 percent from December 1, 2003. **Wheat stocks in all positions** totaled 18.9 million bushels on December 1, 2004. This was a decrease of five percent from 2003. Off-farm stocks, at 16.5 million bushels, accounted for 87 percent of the state total. On-farm stocks totaled 2.4 million bushels.

U.S. corn stocks in all positions on December 1, 2004 totaled 9.45 billion bushels, up 19 percent from December 1, 2003. This is the highest December 1 stocks level since 1987. Of the total stocks, 6.14 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 16 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.30 billion bushels, are up 24 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2004 indicated disappearance is 3.32 billion bushels, compared with 3.22 billion bushels during the same period last year. **Soybeans stored in all positions on December 1, 2004** totaled 2.30 billion bushels, up 36 percent from December 1, 2003. This is the largest December 1 stocks level on record, exceeding the previous record set in 2001 by one percent. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 1.30 billion bushels, up 59 percent from a year ago and set a new record high by five percent. Off-farm stocks, at 1.00 billion bushels, are up 16 percent from last December. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2004 totaled 949 million bushels, up one percent from the same period a year earlier. **All wheat stored in all positions on December 1, 2004** totaled 1.43 billion bushels, down six percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 531 million bushels, up eight percent from last December. Off-farm stocks, at 900 million bushels, are down 13 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2004 indicated disappearance is 508 million bushels, down two percent from the same period a year earlier.

GRAIN AND HAY STOCKS - DECEMBER 1

Crop and position 1/	Illinois		United States	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
Thousand bushels				
<u>Corn</u>				
On farms	850,000	970,000	5,286,000	6,144,000
Off farms	603,450	687,319	2,667,775	3,304,798
Total	1,453,450	1,657,319	7,953,775	9,448,798
<u>Soybeans</u>				
On farms	160,000	235,000	820,000	1,300,000
Off farms	148,168	182,603	868,653	1,004,880
Total	308,168	417,603	1,688,653	2,304,880
<u>All Wheat</u>				
On farms	1,200	2,400	491,925	531,020
Off farms	18,659	16,512	1,028,359	899,718
Total	19,859	18,912	1,520,284	1,430,738
<u>Oats</u>				
On farms	*	*	64,400	60,400
Off farms	631	470	54,900	44,563
Total	*	*	119,300	104,963
<u>Sorghum</u>				
On farms	*	*	45,200	78,700
Off farms	2,237	2,745	190,736	203,182
Total	*	*	235,936	281,882
<u>Barley</u>				
On farms	2/	2/	97,200	130,700
Off farms	*	*	100,679	115,476
Total	*	*	197,879	246,176
<u>Hay 3/</u>				
On farms	1,797	1,613	111,027	114,294

1/ Off farm stocks include stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.

2/ Estimate discontinued.

3/ 1,000 tons

* Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

HOGS AND PIGS

The number of hogs and pigs in Illinois on December 1, 2004, was 4.0 million head, unchanged from December 1, 2003. Breeding hogs on hand December 1, 2004, were estimated at 420 thousand head, up two percent from a year ago. Market hogs, at 3.58 million head, were down slightly from a year earlier.

The pig crop during September, October, and November of 2004 was 1.814 million head, unchanged from the same period in 2003. There were 205 thousand sows that farrowed, steady with a year earlier. The litter rate for the quarter averaged 8.85 pigs saved per litter.

Farrowing intentions for the December 2004 through February 2005 quarter is 205 thousand, the same as actual farrowings during the same period a year earlier. The first estimate of intentions for the March through May quarter of 2005 is for 205 thousand sows to farrow, 10 thousand less than in the same quarter in 2004.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2004 was 60.5 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2003, but down one percent from September 1, 2004. Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down one percent from December 1, 2003, but up slightly from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.5 million head, was up slightly from last year, but two percent below last quarter.

The September through November 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 25.6 million head, was up slightly from 2003 and up two percent from 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, down slightly from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.96 for the September through November period, compared to 8.93 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the December 2004 through February 2005 quarter, one percent above the actual farrows during the same period in 2004, and three percent above 2003. Intended farrowings for March through May 2005, at 2.87 million sows, are down slightly from the same period in 2004, and down one percent from the same period in 2003.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 38 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 35 percent last year.

HOGS & PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS, DECEMBER 1, 2003-2004

	Illinois			Iowa			United States		
	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Breeding	410	420	102	1,060	1,070	101	6,009	5,969	99
Market	3,590	3,580	100	14,840	15,030	101	54,434	54,531	100
Under 60 lbs.	1,280	1,360	106	4,510	4,480	99	19,778	19,636	99
60-119 lbs.	860	830	97	4,130	4,130	100	13,238	13,439	102
120-179 lbs.	770	770	100	3,200	3,340	104	11,109	11,286	102
180 lbs. & over	680	620	91	3,000	3,080	103	10,311	10,171	99
Total	4,000	4,000	100	15,900	16,100	101	60,444	60,501	100

HOGS & PIGS: FARROWINGS & PIG CROP, 2003-2004

	Illinois			Iowa			United States		
	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Sows Farrowing									
Dec.-Feb. 1/	205	205 2/	100	410	440 2/	107	2,836	2,855 2/	101
Mar.-May 1/	215	205 2/	95	430	440 2/	102	2,870	2,868 2/	100
Jun.-Aug.	215	205	95	460	430	93	2,918	2,888	99
Sep.-Nov.	205	205	100	440	450	102	2,856	2,852	100
Pig Crop									
Jun.-Aug.	1,903	1,825	96	4,002	3,827	96	25,974	26,010	100
Sep.-Nov.	1,814	1,814	100	3,872	4,005	103	25,488	25,558	100
Pigs Per Litter									
Jun.-Aug.	8.85	8.90	--	8.70	8.90	--	8.90	9.01	--
Sep.-Nov.	8.85	8.85	--	8.80	8.90	--	8.93	8.96	--

1/ January, February and March through May of following year.

2/ Intentions.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

The December index of prices received by Illinois farmers for all commodities was 117 percent of the base, down two points from the revised November figure and four points below December 2003. The current year's base was computed by multiplying the average production for the five-year period by the average price for each year. These five years were summed and then divided by five to arrive at an average (base) for the period. The current five-year average production was then multiplied by the current price and divided by the average for the five years to arrive at the current index. The December All Crops index, at 105 percent of the base, was two points lower than the revised November number and 16 points below December 2003. All crop prices showed slight increases from last month with the exception of alfalfa hay which declined and other hay which was steady. The All Livestock index was at 159 percent of the base, down two points from the revised November figure but 37 points above December 2003. Prices for hogs and milk increased while cattle prices decreased from last month. The hog-corn ratio was at 27.3.

The U.S. preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December was 112, based on 1990-92=100, three points below the revised November Index. The Crop Index was down eight points from November while the Livestock Index increased one point. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, dairy, eggs, and cauliflower. Lower prices were received for tomatoes, oranges, corn, and cotton. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past three-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of dairy, tobacco, and wheat offset decreased marketings of cattle, grapes, and soybeans. The preliminary All Farm Products Index was down two points from December 2003.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Nov. 2004	Dec. 15, 2004
ILLINOIS	1997-2001=100		1998-2002=100	
All Farm Products	121	121	119 *	117
All Crops	120	121	107 *	105
Food grains	147	144	125 *	125
Feed grains/hay	107	108	104 *	100
Soybeans	134	136	110 *	110
All Livestock	126	122	161 *	159
Meat animals	130	127	169 *	165
Dairy products	106	103	122 *	131
UNITED STATES	1990-92=100			
All Farm Products	116	114	115 *	112
All Crops	115	115	112 *	104
Food grains	116	121	114 *	113
Feed grains/hay	99	103	92 *	91
Oilseeds	122	126	97 *	99
All Livestock	117	112	119 *	120
Meat animals	116	110	118 *	119
Dairy products	110	106	123 *	126
Prices Paid	129	129	134 *	134
Parity Ratio 1/	90	88	86 *	84

1/ Prices received index divided by prices paid index.

* Revised.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	Illinois				United States			
		Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Nov. 2004	Dec. 15, 2004	Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Nov. 2004	Dec. 15, 2004
		Dollars							
Corn	Bushels	2.21	2.34	2.08 *	2.10	2.20	2.31	2.05 *	1.99
Soybeans	Bushels	6.94	7.13	5.37 *	5.50	7.05	7.17	5.36 *	5.41
Sorghum	Cwt.	4.16	4.62	3.27 *	3.30	4.13	4.20	3.06 *	2.94
Wheat, all	Bushels	3.68	3.69	3.27 *	3.30	3.61	3.68	3.46 *	3.38
Oats	Bushels	1.48	1.89	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	1.29	1.58	1.49 *	1.42
Hay, all baled	Tons	87.00	87.00	86.00	86.00	81.50	80.60	86.20 *	84.30
Alfalfa hay, bld	Tons	94.00	94.00	93.00	92.00	86.80	87.00	94.00 *	92.40
Other hay, bld	Tons	70.00	69.00	70.00	70.00	67.50	66.50	67.80 *	67.10
Hogs, all	Cwt.	35.80	36.10	56.80 *	57.30	34.70	34.20	55.70 *	54.50
Barrows, Gilts	Cwt.	36.50	37.00	58.00 *	58.30	34.90	34.60	56.10 *	54.90
Sows	Cwt.	28.00	26.00	43.50 *	45.50	29.10	28.10	45.70 *	46.00
Beef cattle	Cwt.	104.00	97.00	84.30 *	82.30	93.40	90.40	85.10 *	86.80
Cows	Cwt.	49.00	49.00	49.40 *	48.40	47.70	49.20	48.90 *	48.70
Steers, Heifers	Cwt.	105.00	98.00	85.00 *	83.00	99.90	95.60	90.20 *	91.90
Calves	Cwt.	108.00	100.00	114.00 *	108.00	111.00	112.00	124.00 *	121.00
Milk cows	Head	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Milk, all	Cwt.	14.50	13.60	16.60 *	17.20	14.40	13.80	16.10 *	16.50
Milk, fluid	Cwt.	14.50	13.60	16.60	<u>3/</u>	14.40	13.80	16.10 *	16.50
Milk, mfg.	Cwt.	14.10	13.30	15.80	<u>3/</u>	13.80	12.70	15.60 *	15.90
Hog-corn ratio		16.2	15.4	27.3 *	27.3	15.8	14.8	27.2 *	27.4

1/ Prices received represents the average of all grades or classes at point of first sale and should not be confused with market quotations.

2/ Estimated in January, April, July and October.

3/ State prices not published.

* Revised.

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WINTER WHEAT - FALL SEEDINGS

In Illinois, an estimated 650 thousand acres of winter wheat were seeded in the fall of 2004, 29 percent less than in 2003. This is the lowest planted acreage for winter wheat since the data series began in 1866. The lack of snow cover has winter wheat producers a little concerned about this year's crop. As of January 3, the wheat crop was rated 12 percent excellent, 43 percent good, 30 percent fair, 14 percent poor, and 1 percent very poor.

U.S. winter wheat seeded area for 2005 is expected to total 41.6 million acres, down four percent from 2004. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 30.5 million; Soft Red Winter, 6.6 million; and White Winter, 4.5 million.

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